CLERK: Mr. President, LB 317, offered by Senator Brown.   (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 8 of this year, referred to Urban Affairs, advanced to General File.   I have no amendments to the bill at this time, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk.   Senator Brown, you're recognized to open on LB 317.

SENATOR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. President and members.   The current system for money management for city obligations is by warrant,   and that was approved by the Legislature in 1929 and has remained the same since that time even though cash handling has changed significantly.   In 1997, the Legislature authorized counties to set up imprest funds and move away from a warrant system,   and this proposed legislation would do the same thing for metropolitan class cities.   It's significant because Douglas County plans to move to implement the imprest system and it would require the city of Omaha to spend a great deal of money making modifications to their accounting system to accommodate an antiquated system of warrants that we still continue.   So authorization to use the imprest system of accounting for cities of a metropolitan class would allow the city of Omaha to modernize its payment methods by establishing checking accounts for the clearing of payments for city obligations in real time, and reduce the extra step of clearing warrants.   Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Debate on the advancement of LB 317? Senator Brown, you're recognized to close.   Senator Brown waives closing.   The question is the advancement of LB 317 to E & R Initial.   Those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 35 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 317.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The bill is advanced. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: LB 179, Mr. President, a bill by Senator Hilgert, relates to cities of the metropolitan class.   (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 4 of this year, referred to the